

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for providing prerequisite checking in a system for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, compilations from a plurality of individual content entities ~~objects~~ including content for the content object and stored in a data repository, ~~each content object comprising a plurality of content entities~~, some of the content entities being prerequisites to others of the content entities, wherein a prerequisite content entity is associated with another content entity and designated for automatic inclusion in the content objects for which that other content entity is selected and placed, the method comprising the steps of:

~~upon addition or removal of~~ adding or removing a selected content entity to or from the content object ~~compilation~~,

determining if the selected content entity has any prerequisite content entities associated with that content entity,

and if so,

automatically adding or removing the associated prerequisite content entities to or from the content object,

~~wherein said content entity comprises information to be published.~~

2. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the prerequisites are conditional.

3. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the conditions for applying a prerequisite are defined in one or more rules.

4. (Currently amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 3, in the case of more than one of the rules pertaining to the same prerequisite, further comprising the step of reducing the rule set if possible into a smaller set of rules.

5. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 3, further comprising the step of rewriting any negative rules as positive rules.

6. (Currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing prerequisite checking in a system for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, compilations from a plurality of individual content entities ~~objects~~ including content for the content object and stored in a data repository, ~~each content object comprising a plurality of content entities~~, some of the content entities being prerequisites to others of the content entities, wherein a prerequisite content entity is associated with another content entity and designated for

automatic inclusion in the content objects for which that other content entity is selected and placed, the method comprising the steps of:

~~upon addition or removal of~~ adding or removing a selected content entity to or from the content object compilation,

determining if the selected content entity has any prerequisite content entities associated with that content entity,

and if so,

automatically adding or removing the associated prerequisite content entities to or from the content object,

~~wherein said content entity comprises information to be published.~~

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein one or more of the prerequisites are conditional.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the conditions for applying a prerequisite are defined in one or more rules.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, in the case of more than one of the rules pertaining to the same prerequisite, further comprising the step of reducing the rule set if possible into a smaller set of rules.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of rewriting any negative rules as positive rules.

11. (Currently amended) A system for providing prerequisite checking in a system for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, compilations from a plurality of individual content entities objects including content for the content object and stored in a data repository, ~~each content object comprising a plurality of content entities,~~ some of the content entities being prerequisites to others of the content entities, wherein a prerequisite content entity is associated with another content entity and designated for automatic inclusion in the content objects for which that other content entity is selected and placed, the system comprising:

means for adding or removing a selected content entity to or from the content object,

means for determining,~~upon addition or removal of a content entity to or from the compilation,~~ if the selected content entity has any prerequisite content entities associated with that content entity, and if so,

means for automatically adding or removing the associated prerequisite content entities to or from the content object

~~wherein said content entity comprises information to be published.~~

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein one or more of the prerequisites are conditional.

13. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the conditions for applying a prerequisite are defined in one or more rules.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising means for reducing the rule set if possible into a smaller set of rules in the case of more than one of the rules pertaining to the same prerequisite.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising means for rewriting any negative rules as positive rules.